

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble comprising a table and a plurality of seating means connectively attached thereto that is sufficiently buoyant as a whole to float when disposed in a body of water which comprises:

I) a substantially planar framework which comprises

- a) a first linear frame member having a first end portion and a second end portion and having a hollow interior portion
- b) a second linear frame member having a first end portion and a second end portion and having a hollow interior portion
- c) a third linear frame member having a first end portion and a second end portion and having a hollow interior portion
- d) a fourth linear frame member having a first end portion and a second end portion and having a hollow interior portion;

wherein the first end portion of each of said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members are connected to one another such that the hollow interior portions of each of said frame members are in fluid contact with one another; and

wherein each of said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members are radially disposed about a common centerpoint;

e) a first hollow structural conduit having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion of said first hollow structural conduit is connected to said first linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said first linear frame member, and wherein said second end portion of said first hollow structural conduit is connected to said second linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said second linear frame member;

f) a second hollow structural conduit having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion of said second hollow structural conduit is connected to said second linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said second linear frame member, and wherein said second end portion of said second hollow structural conduit is connected to said third linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said third linear frame member;

g) a third hollow structural conduit having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion of said third hollow structural conduit is connected to said third linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said third linear frame member, and wherein said second end portion of said third hollow structural conduit is connected to said fourth linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion

of said fourth linear frame member;

h) a fourth hollow structural conduit having a hollow interior portion, a first end portion, and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion of said fourth hollow structural conduit is connected to said fourth linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said fourth linear frame member, and wherein said second end portion of said fourth hollow structural conduit is connected to said first linear frame member at a point between said first end portion and said second end portion of said first linear frame member;

wherein the hollow interior portion of each of said hollow structural conduits are in fluid contact with the hollow interior portions of said linear frame members

wherein said framework includes an opening between the space enclosed by said interior portions of said hollow structural conduits and said linear frame members and the space external to said interior portions of said hollow structural conduits and said linear frame members sufficient to admit water when said framework is submerged in a body of water;

wherein the second end portion of each of said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members are curved upwardly from the plane of said planar framework;

II) a seating means disposed at the second end portion of each of said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members;

III) a vertical support beam having a first end portion and a second end portion, said first end of said vertical support beam being connected to said planar framework at the common centerpoint about which said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members are radially disposed; and

IV) a buoyant tabletop having a planar top surface disposed at said second end portion of said vertical support beam.

2) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein the angle of the intersection of any two adjacent first, second, third, or fourth linear frame members which are radially disposed about said common centerpoint is about 90 degrees.

3) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said buoyant tabletop is shaped substantially in the form of a rectangular solid.

4) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 3 wherein said buoyant tabletop comprises a hollow interior volume which is isolated from its surroundings.

5) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 4 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises air.

6) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 4 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises a foamed polymer.

7) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 4 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises expanded polystyrene.

8) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said opening is disposed beneath the common centerpoint about which said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members are radially disposed.

9) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members include a means for mounting a counterweight.

10) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein the second end portion of said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members includes an opening to the external surroundings of the space enclosed by said first, second, third, and fourth linear frame members.

11) (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~an~~ An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said tabletop portion includes at least one cutout portion adapted to receive a beverage container.

12) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said first hollow structural conduit and said first and second linear frame members define the outer perimeter of a first planar footspace, and wherein said second hollow structural conduit and said second and third linear frame members define the outer perimeter of a second planar footspace, and wherein said third hollow structural conduit and said third and fourth linear frame members define the outer perimeter of a third planar footspace, and wherein said fourth hollow structural conduit and said fourth and first linear frame members define the outer perimeter of a fourth planar footspace, wherein said planar footspaces each include a floor portion means connected to the hollow structural conduit and linear frame members which define the respective footspaces.

13) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 12 wherein said floor portion means comprises a woven material.

14) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 12 wherein said woven material is non-metallic.

15) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 12 wherein said woven material comprises a vinyl mesh.

16) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 1 wherein said ensemble as a whole is sufficiently buoyant to float while said ensemble is disposed in a body of water and four men, each weighing between 100 and 250 pounds, are seated, one on each of said seating means.

17) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 16 and further comprising at least one weight attached to said framework.

18) (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An ensemble comprising a table and a plurality of seating means connectively attached thereto that is sufficiently buoyant as a whole to float when disposed in a body of water which comprises:

a) a substantially planar framework comprising hollow structural members each having an interior volume, wherein the interior volume at least two of said structural members of said framework are in fluid contact with one another and wherein said framework includes an opening to render said interior volume to be in fluid contact with the external surroundings such that water is admitted into said interior volume upon submersion of said framework into a body of water;

b) a vertical support beam having a first end portion and a second end portion, wherein said first end portion of said vertical support beam is connected to said framework such that it extends upwardly from the plane of said planar framework;

b) c) a buoyant tabletop portion centrally disposed above the plane of said planar framework and connected to said second end portion of said vertical support beam;

e) d) a plurality of seating means connected to said framework, wherein said seating means are disposed so that the tabletop portion is centrally located with respect to said seating means.

19) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 18 wherein said ensemble as a whole is sufficiently buoyant to float while said ensemble is disposed in a body of water and a total human mass in the range of 200 to 1000 lbs is disposed on said plurality of seating means.

20) (ORIGINAL) An ensemble according to claim 18 wherein said buoyant tabletop comprises a hollow interior volume which is isolated from its surroundings.

21) (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An ensemble according to claim ~~19~~ 20 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises air.

22) (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An ensemble according to claim ~~19~~ 20 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises a foamed polymer.

23) (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An ensemble according to claim ~~19~~ 20 wherein said interior volume of said buoyant tabletop comprises expanded polystyrene.

24) (NEW) An ensemble according to claim 18 wherein said vertical support beam includes a hollow interior portion which is adapted to receive water upon immersion of said ensemble into a body of water.

25) (NEW) An ensemble according to claim 18 wherein the buoyancy for said ensemble is provided solely by said tabletop portion.